

3 August 1981
MSK-1014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Seoul Bureau--July 1981

I. GENERAL

New U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Richard Walker arrived in Seoul on 31 July to replace Ambassador Gleysteen, who had departed on 10 June. The Walkers created a very favorable impression immediately in hosting a reception on 1 August for all Embassy staff personnel, including spouses and children.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. As an accommodation to the BBC, the Bureau began mailing cassette recordings of two Russian regional newscasts--from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk--to London for processing. This is all that remains of the Bureau's former Russian coverage.
2. A new teacher was hired during the month to resume teaching English classes to Bureau employees. The classes, which had been suspended in December, will start again on 4 August. In addition to a basic English class for Bureau teletypists and technicians, the teacher will also conduct a writing composition class for the monitors to try to help them improve their written English and smooth out their translations.

B. Technical

A formal contract was signed with Korea Communications Engineers, the local contractor that will install new transformers on the Bureau's four Beverage antennas at Pyongtaek. Initiation of work is still awaiting the arrival of the transformers from the U.S. manufacturer.

II. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. A message was received from the State Department rejecting the Bureau's proposed monitorial grade structure calling for a chief and two shift supervisors in each of the Bureau's two units. State consented only to maintaining the status quo, with the two unit chiefs only one grade higher than the journeyman monitor level. The Bureau has given the Embassy Personnel Officer a response stressing the Bureau's need for a stronger supervisory structure and asking State to reconsider its position. Discussions on the issue are still going on.
2. Editor [] arrived on PCS on 24 July to replace [] STAT
[] Bob's wife and daughter arrived on 29 July after a STAT
stopover in Tokyo to visit relatives.
3. Teletypist [] was promoted on 26 July to Teletype STAT
Supervisor to replace the former supervisor who resigned on
30 May to emigrate to the U.S.
4. New Korean monitor [] entered on duty on 28 July STAT
to fill the eighth--and last--position in the Bureau's Korean
Unit. His EOD was held up slightly pending resolution of a
question concerning his former employment by the Peace Corps
in Korea.
5. Former TCN Russian monitor [] left Seoul for Australia STAT
on 14 July.

III. VISITS

Okinawa Regional Engineer [] and his replacement [] STAT
visited the Bureau 15-19 July.

[] STAT
Chief, Seoul Bureau, FBIS

Attachments:

Production Reports
Engineering Report

cc: Chief, []
Chief, Okinawa Bureau

STAT